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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/730,679	12/06/2000	Nabil Khalifa	PHF 99, 618	8828

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PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS
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EXAMINER

WILSON, ROBERT W

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2661

DATE MAILED: 05/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/730,679

Applicant(s)

KHALIFA ET AL.

Examiner

Robert W Wilson

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 December 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06 December 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date Z.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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DETAILED ACTION

1.0 The application of Nabil Khalifa et. al. entitled "TRANSMISSION SYSTEM COMPRISING A STATION OF A FIRST TYPE AND A STATION OF A SECOND TYPE AND SYNCHRONIZATION METHOD" filed on 12/06/2000 and claiming foreign priority based upon FRANCE 9915418 dated 12/07/1999 was examined. Claims 1-5 are pending.

Drawings

2.0 The drawings were reviewed by the draftsman and accepted as formal.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3.0 The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4.0 **Claims 1-5** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Agarwal (U.S. Patent No.: 6,529,485 B1)

Referring to **Claim 1**, Agarwal teaches: A transmission system comprising at least a station of a first type and a station of a second type which include a transmitting part having a transmit timing controller for transmitting data at a transmitting timing and a receiving part having a synchronizing circuits for synchronization with data transmitted from another station to provide a receive timing (Figure 1 is a transmission system wherein 400 which is a Master Reference Terminal or a station of the first type and 200 is a Traffic Terminal or is a station of a second type and 200 has a TIMING CONTROL BLOCK or timing controller which receives timing from the Master Reference Terminal as well as for receiving data from another traffic terminal or per col. 1 line 12-col. 5 line 15.) characterized in that the transmit timing is fixed in response to receive timing (The transmit timing and receive timing are based upon timing that is sent from the Master Clock in the Master Reference Terminal per Fig 1 or per col. 1 line 12-col. 5 line 15)

Agarwal does not expressly call for first type station and a second type station but teaches a Master Reference Terminal and a Traffic Terminal per Fig 1.

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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that the Master Reference Terminal performs the same function as first type station and a Traffic Terminal performs the same function as a second type station.

In Addition:

Regarding **Claim 2**, formed by a station of the first type where the receiving part comprising a synchronizing circuit for determining the receiving timing of a plurality of stations of the second type (The Master Reference Terminal or station of the first type has Timing Control block of a synchronizing circuit for determining the receiving timing of a plurality of Traffic Terminals (200) or stations of the second type per Fig 1 or per col. 1 line 12-col. 5 line 15)

Regarding **Claim 3**, characterized in the stations of the second type comprise means for evaluating a frequency shift of the receiving frequency relative to the transmitting frequency of the station of the first type and means for modifying the transmitting frequency of the station of the second type as a function of frequency deviation (The Traffic Terminal or station of the second type has TIMING CONTROL block or means for modifying the transmitting clock frequency from the Master Reference Terminal or station of the second type per Fig 1 or per col. 1 line 12-col. 5 line 15)

Referring to **Claim 4**, Agarwal (U.S. Patent No. 6,529,485) teaches: A station of the first type suitable for a system comprising at least a station of the first type and a station of the second type which include a transmitting part having a transmit timing controller for transmitting data at a transmit timing and a receiving part having synchronizing circuits for synchronization with data transmitted from another station to provide a receive timing (The Master Reference Terminal or station of the first type and Traffic Terminal or second type of station which includes a TIMING CONTROL BLOCK for transmitting data to a transmit timing and a receiving part having synchronizing circuits for synchronization with data transmitted from a another Traffic Terminal or another station per Fig 1 or per col. 1 line 12-col. 5 line 15)

Agarwal does not expressly call for first type station and a second type station but teaches a Master Reference Terminal and a Traffic Terminal per Fig 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that the Master Reference Terminal performs the same function as first type station and a Traffic Terminal performs the same function as a second type station.

Referring to **Claim 5**, Agarwal (U.S. Patent No. 6,529,485) teaches: A synchronization method suitable for a system comprising at least a station of the first type and a station of the second type which includes a transmitting part having a transmit timing controller for transmitting data at a transmit timing and receiving part having synchronizing circuits for synchronization with data transmitted from another station to provide a receive timing (Fig 1 shows a synchronization

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method comprising of a Master Reference Terminal or station of the first type and a Traffic Terminal or Station of the second type which has a TIMING CONTROL BLOCK or transmit and receive timing controller or per col. 1 line 12-col. 5 line 15) characterized in that in comprises the following steps:

Measuring the receive clock deviation made at the station of the second type (calculating the adjust value or receive clock deviation per col. 4 lines 64-67 or per col. 1 line 12-col. 5 line 15)

Comparing the transmit clock at the station of the second type by adopting the opposite deviation value (calculating the adjust value or receive clock deviation per col. 4 lines 64-67 or per col. 1 line 12-col. 5 line 15)

Single synchronization of the receive clock at the station of the first type (The Master Reference Terminal (400) per Fig 1 provides a reference burst per col. 1 lines 28-31 or col. 1 line 59-col. 2 line 10)

Agarwal does not expressly call for first type station and a second type station but teaches a Master Reference Terminal and a Traffic Terminal per Fig 1.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that the Master Reference Terminal performs the same function as first type station and a Traffic Terminal performs the same function as a second type station.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5.0 The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-5 are rejected relative to 112/2nd paragraph because the metes and bounds of the claims cannot be assessed:

Referring to **Claims 1, 4 & 5**, What is meant by “another station”? Is another station a type 1 station or type 2 station?

In Addition:

Claims 2& 3 are rejected because they depend upon **Claim 1**.

Specification

6.0 The examiner objects to Pg 1 of the specification between lines 8-17 because it contains sentence fragments which are incomplete sentences. The examiner suggests that the applicant

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reword this section without adding new matter in complete sentences. Appropriate action is required.

Abstract

7.0 The examiner objects to the wording "Cellular telephone networks Fig. 1". This is a carryover from the translated foreign patent in which a figure is referenced. The examiner suggests removal of the reference to the Fig. Appropriate action is required.

Specification

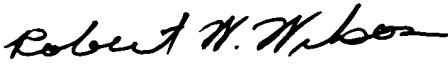
8.0 The examiner objects to Pg 1 of the specification between lines 8-17 because it contains sentence fragments which are incomplete sentences. The examiner requests that the applicant reword this section without adding new matter in complete sentences.

Conclusion


9.0 Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert W Wilson whose telephone number is 703/305-4102. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-4:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Douglas Olms can be reached on (703) 305-4703. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.


Robert W Wilson
Examiner
Art Unit 2661

RWW
April 15, 2004


DOUGLAS OLMS
SUPERVISOR